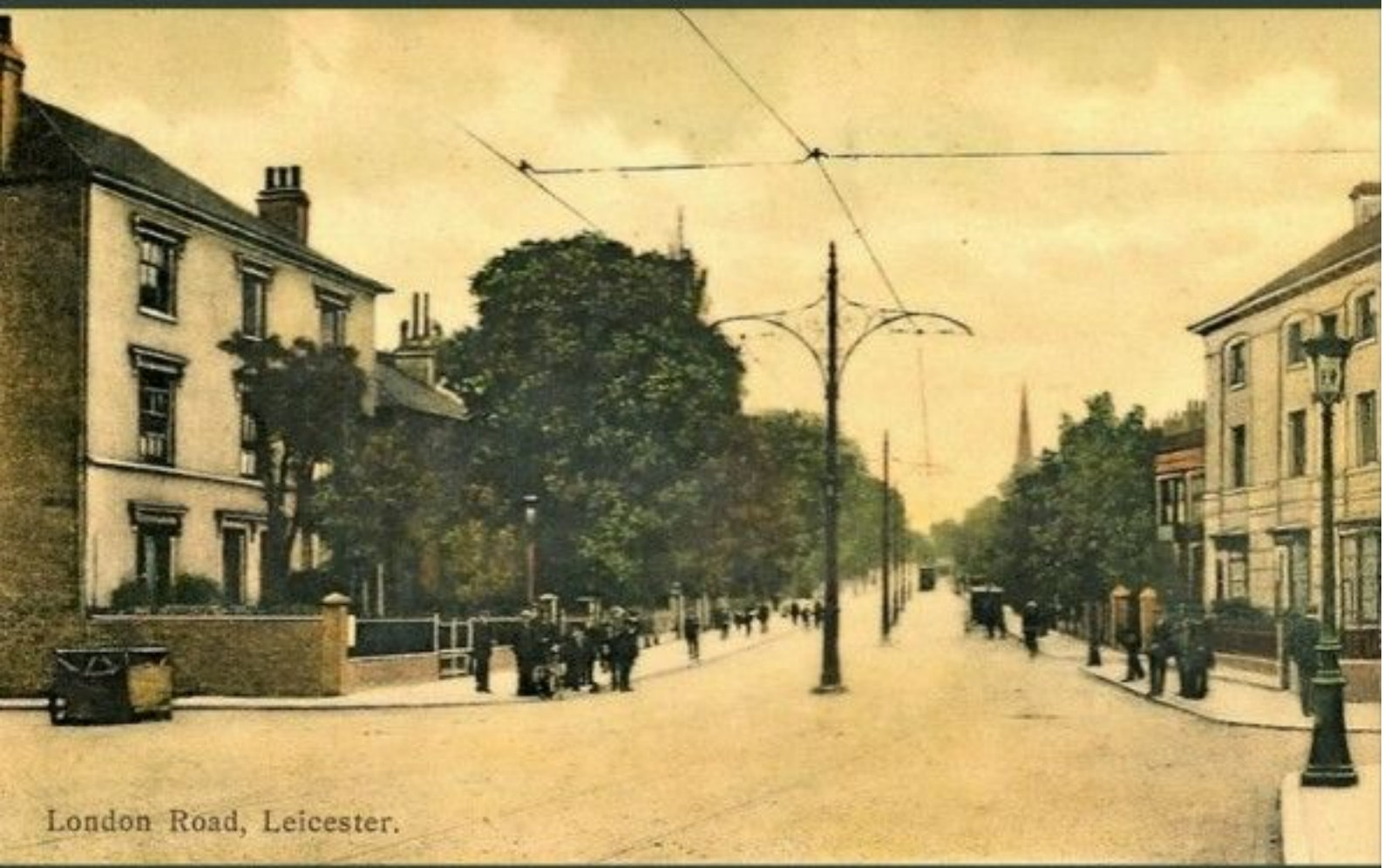


# **ENGLISH CITY OF LEICESTER AS EXAMPLE OF BENEFITS OF ABOLITION OF VACCINATION**



London Road, Leicester.

**Dr. Montague R. Levenson**  
**Bridgeport Evening Farmer, Connecticut**  
**USA, August 21, 1909**

## **ENGLISH CITY OF LEICESTER AS EXAMPLE OF BENEFITS OF ABOLITION OF VACCINATION**

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### **Dr. Montague R. Levenson Convicts Prof. Theobald Smith of Error in Claiming that Vaccination Prevents Smallpox - Merits of Béchamp and Pasteur Compared.**

Montague R Levenson, M.D., a graduate of the German University of Göttingen, a famous scientist, who is also a scholar in modern languages, and reads fluently both French and German, has taken up the cudgels against Prof. Theobald Smith, who in his Lowell Institute lecture championed vaccination. Dr. Levenson is an expert in the diagnosis and treatment of smallpox, known on two continents. He is opposed to vaccination. His open letter to Prof. Smith follows:

*927 Grant Avenue, Bronx, New York City, April 26, 1909.*

*To Professor Theobald Smith,  
Boston, Mass.*

Dear Sir:-

A clipping from the Boston Evening Transcript of Wednesday, March 31, 1909, has been sent to me containing what purports to be a report of your, "fifth Lowell Institute lecture," accompanied by a request that I make such comments thereon as might be needed to correct erroneous impressions likely to be conveyed by it.

The task is difficult, especially by reason of the vagueness of the laudatory report. In the Transcript, on many of the points you seem to have touched upon; but I believe the errors the report ascribes to you to be so seriously misleading that I am bound to make the attempt.

It is reported that you had shown, "in a previous paper (1) how man may be guarded against smallpox by means of vaccine that has been modified by culture in the cow"; and that (2) "this process so changes its character that there is a loss of infection," and (3) "It is able to produce disease only at the place to which it is applied."

As a student of pathology who for the past fifteen years has devoted himself, almost exclusively, to the study of smallpox and vaccination, and the diseased conditions induced by the latter, I have never been able to find any evidence in support of the first statement, and I have found overwhelming evidence in disproof of the third. Both are assumptions without evidence to support them, and if you will favor me with, a visit I will show you a large collection, of drawings illustrative of deplorable constitutional diseased conditions produced directly by, "vaccine that has been modified by culture in the cow," including cases which that pronounced pro-vaccinist and celebrated surgeon Jonathan Hutchinson reluctantly confessed to be of syphilitic character, imparted, some of them, not by arm-to-arm vaccination, but by vaccination direct from the cow. You are reported to have stated that, "this discovery has been of inestimable value to the human race since it is a prophylactic against smallpox." Such an assertion is not supported by any evidence. As I do not suppose you to be capable of wilfully fooling your audience I am bound to believe that you have yourself been fooled. Unhappily, laws enacted by Ignorant law-makers, dogmas laid down by knaves, and adopted by the misguided authorities of our medical schools, and by them maintained by the persecution of those who do not assent thereto, have made it to the interest of the medical profession to be ignorant of facts of the gravest importance to mankind, and therefore they remain ignorant thereof.

Even the garbled official statistics of all these countries which have been so deluded as to make the attempt at cow pox prophylaxis, prove that there is absolutely no protection, neither "for life," nor "till puberty," nor for ten years, nor for seven, nor for six, five, four, three, two nor even one year, nor yet for any portion of one year. In fooling themselves and mankind the vaccinating officials have not only garbled their own statistics, but they have used official statistics with what the great Master of Statistics. Dr. Adolf Vogt, (\*) described as, "inconceivable superficiality."

The report states that you showed how the arm-to-arm process was supplanted about fifty years ago by bovine vaccine; but why did you not acknowledge the fact that for more than thirty years the pro-vaccinists positively denied that vaccination ever caused the syphilitic condition or a condition resembling the syphilitic, and persisted in such denial for years even after Ricord had reluctantly admitted that it had done so; and even denounced as liars, the noble and learned men who proved it? Neither is it fifty, but only about twenty-five years, since such vaccinating was general, and even today arm-to-arm vaccination is practiced in many places.

Is it possible that you stated as reported, "that the operation was controlled by antiseptic treatment and that the quality of the vaccine was rigidly tested"? Pardon me for saying that assertions so rash and so misleading cannot be excused in a gentleman of your eminence when a very small amount of investigation would have taught you that the pretences to such effect were the merest shams.

You are reported to have exhibited, "most convincing graphic diagrams of the death rates different cities before and after establishing compulsory vaccination." Convincing they could have been only to those who knew nothing about the subject. The truth is that after desperately fighting against improvements in sanitation the people of England and the people of many parts of the United States, led by the opponents of vaccination, forced sanitary reforms upon their municipal authorities, often in spite of continued opposition by medical officials.

You are reported to have said that, "owing to the subtle nature of the disease, vaccination has been necessary against it." You here assume smallpox to be a thing, an entity. This blunder is committed by nearly all the followers of the self-styled "regular school", and it will probably be a new idea to you to be told that neither smallpox nor any other disease is an entity, but is a condition.

You are reported to have quoted approvingly the fact that Germany insists on two vaccinations, one in infancy, and the other about the age of twelve, while Japan has three. In addition the Japanese troops have vaccinations of their own. Now I chance to have before me a report of a speech of Baron Kanehiro Takaki, at the Jubilee dinner of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health, wherein he stated that every child in Japan is vaccinated before it is six months old, re-vaccinated at six years, again at fourteen, and that all the men were re-vaccinated on entering the army; while a further re-vaccination was enforced if an outbreak of smallpox occurred. And yet, in the lecture delivered by that same gentleman on May 12, 1906, at St. Thomas' Hospital, he stated that 347 soldiers of the Japanese army took smallpox and 33 died of it during the Japanese war! But I have still further Japanese statistics wherewith to enlighten you and, I hope, the deluded people. We learn from the Japan Weekly Chronicle that up to the 26th of January, 1906, there 3,344 cases of smallpox in Kobe since the outbreak of the epidemic in November, 1907, and that of this number 1,182 had died, 1,104 had recovered, and 1,158 were still under treatment. Later returns up to February 20, 1908, showed the total increased to 4,850, of whom no fewer than 2,009 had died. As regards these dismal facts there is a "conspiracy of silence" among official doctors, in which they are, almost universally aided by the medical press, and too generally by the lay.



I have never seen any explanation even attempted of the following gruesome statistics as to smallpox and vaccination in England.

From 1847 until 1853 vaccination was encouraged; it was made obligatory from 1854 until 1867, and was enforced with cruel violence from 1868 until 1898. There was an epidemic of smallpox in England in 1857-8-9 in which there died 14,244 persons; there was another in 1863-4-5 in which there died 20,059 persons; and in 1870-1-2 there was another, in which there died 44,840 persons, nearly all of whom had been vaccinated, and many of them re-vaccinated one or more times.

In 1870-1 Leicester suffered from smallpox as much as any other large city in England, and then she began her revolt against vaccination. The following table shows a remarkable result, not only as to smallpox, but as to the general health of that city. Great sanitary improvements had been effected during the period of 1870-80 whereof the abandonment of vaccination was not the least important.

Death rate of England and Wales, per 1 000 living	Years 1868-72	Years '73-77	Years '78-82	Years '83-87	Years '99-92	Years '93-97	Years '98-02
.....	22.2	21.4	20.2	19.2	19	17.8	17.4
The like, Leicester, .....	26.8	24.5	22.2	19.9	18.34	17.31	16.7
Vaccination-rate of Leicester per 100 births, .....	91.7	80	66.7	29.9	3.4	2.1	7.2
The population has doubled from 1868-72 to 188-9. But a still more remarkable exhibit is that of the fatality rate of smallpox in epidemics occurring in much and in little vaccinated towns.							
Place	Date of last epidemic of S. P.	Cases.	Deaths.	Fatality rate (per cent. of cases.)			
London, .....	1901-2	9,656	1,629	16.86			
Liverpool, .....	1902-3	2,060	151	7.33			
Leicester, .....	1903-4	715	26	3.49			

As regards Leicester Mr. J. T. Biggs summarized the Important features of Leicester's recent smallpox history as follows:

- (1) In each of the smallpox outbreaks of 1892-3, 1903 and 1904, there has been an increasing number and proportion of unvaccinated in the population.
- (2) The fatality from smallpox has declined in the same period from 5.8 to 1.3 per cent.
- (3) The general death rate has declined from about 19 per thousand in 1892-3 to 14 per thousand in 1903-4.
- (4) The fatality rate of the unvaccinated was only 1.5 per cent., very much less than that which occurred about the same period in much vaccinated towns.
- (5) Very few of the 60,000 to 80,000 unvaccinated children contracted smallpox.

As the reporter of your lecture dealt only in general eulogy of your statistics it is not possible to prove their erroneous character in detail. I challenge your criticism of those I have above given. They can all be tested, and, being so tested, are verified by the returns of the Registrar General of England and Wales and the official reports of the same authority, of the Local Government Board (despite its continual trickery to support vaccination), and of the Medical Officer of Leicester. To all the world Leicester stands forth as a perpetual control experiment, demonstrating directly the uselessness of vaccination, and indirectly its pernicious influence upon health and character, both of its victims and of those who employ it.

After dealing in generalities as above mentioned the eulogist of your lecture states: "Next the speaker passed to a consideration of the splendid works of Pasteur. They have been of fundamental importance in the extension of vaccination to other infectious diseases." The latter statement is true in a certain sense, the former is absolutely without foundation.

I am not competent to pass any judgment upon Pasteur's work as a chemist, e.g. on his asserted discovery of the mode of growth of crystals; but the two-fold fact that nearly all of his alleged biological discoveries are either erroneous or were distorted plagiarisms of the discoveries of others, ought to induce chemists not merely to examine Pasteur's chemical discoveries but also to trace their history, to see whether in this field also they may not have been plagiarized.

Every one of Pasteur's preventive inoculations has proved a failure. The inoculation of the tubercle bacillus upon cattle has spread tuberculosis among healthy herds, as ordinary common sense would have predicated. His inoculations against anthrax left the animals inoculated more liable to that diseased condition, and caused the premature death of many of them from other diseased condition. But Pasteur's anti-rabic inoculations afford the most decided test of the pernicious character of that method of treatment.

During twenty-three years preceding the use of the anti-rabic serum there were 685 deaths from rabies in all France, or an average of 30 per annum. But since the use of the anti-rabic inoculations the average has risen to 100 per annum, in place of 30, with a continually increasing number each year, so that according to the official returns the number of deaths from rabies in France for the year ending in June, 1907, was just about 300. In truth, as Professor Peter said, in his address to the Academy of Medicine, Paris, on the 11th of January, 1887, "M. Pasteur does not cure rabies he imparts it!"

I will now touch on the famous anti-toxin treatment as a preventive or cure for diphtheria. Here there is apparently an almost unanimous cry of "Hallelujah" by the disciples of Pasteur. All of them insist that the fatality rate of this "dreadful" disease has been greatly lowered. Let us see if the facts bear out this assertion.

The Japanese, while copying our civilization, have also copied our follies. The Serum Institute of Tokla presents a report on diphtheria anti-toxin, in which the statement, common to seropathists of Europe and America, was repeated by the officials of the Institute, that the fatality rate from diphtheria has been reduced from 62 to 28 per cent. of the cases: but more ingenious than European and American officials, on the very opposite page the Japanese Institute furnishes a diagram, whereby means are given for testing the validity of this statement. While that diagram certainly shows a fall from 52 per cent. in the fatality of diphtheria during the seven years preceding the use of anti-toxin to 28 per cent. during a similar period under its use the number of cases since the introduction of anti-toxin has enormously increased as also the number of deaths; so that the largest number of cases in pre-anti-toxin days (6100) is less than the smallest under its use (8613), and in 1809 the number reached 21,035. Also, and this is an important fact, the largest number of deaths from diphtheria in the seven years preceding the use of anti-toxin (3,205 in 1893) introduced beneath the skin the wisest was less than the smallest number of deaths under its use (3,296 in 1896). But in 1896 it may well be supposed that anti-toxin was only in partial use, and the cases and deaths largely increased in 1897, 1898 and 1899, when its use became more general.

The following are the figures:

Seven Years Before Anti-Toxin.		
Years.	Cases.	Deaths.
1889 .....	2,669	1,495
1890 .....	2,448	1,438
1891 .....	3,429	1,974
1892 .....	4,359	2,531
1893 .....	5,726	3,205
1894 .....	5,308	2,903
1895 .....	6,100	3,025
	<hr/> 30,039	<hr/> 16,571
After Introduction of Anti-Toxin.		
Years.	Cases.	Deaths.
1896 .....	8,613	3,296
1897 .....	15,486	5,579
1898 .....	19,692	6,453
1899 .....	21,035	6,658
1900 .....	17,875	5,660
1901 .....	14,882	4,686
1902 .....	15,005	4,314
	<hr/> 112,588	<hr/> 36,656

The report in the "Transcript" ascribes to you certain statements to the effect that immunity can be secured in this or that diseased condition by this or that inoculation. Such statements have not only been refuted by experience, but had the medical profession been governed by common sense, experiments in that direction would never even have been attempted.

Along the whole length of the alimentary canal nature has provided a series of chemical laboratories wherein she analyses, synthesises, separates, prepares for excretion, and finally within certain limits, excretes, matters liable to be injurious to the health or life of the individual who has ingested them; but when any such matters are inoculated, nature's defences are taken in the flank.(†) It is true that as if foreseeing man's folly, nature has provided a network beneath the skin which can sometimes eject poisonous matter by means of an abscess, but always at a cost of the lowered vitality of the Individual, even where the whole of the poison is ejected. Ingested, where the dose is not excessive, a wise physician will still have some power to arrest its mischief by the aid of emetics or antidotes: once physician who lives loses all power over the poison, and not only so, but the entire medical profession combined is absolutely incapable of even foreseeing what effect will be produced. Substances apparently inert and harmless, introduced into the bloodstream, are known to have produced almost instant death, and the recklessness of inoculation amounts to cruelty through ignorance. The reporter states that you spoke of Sir Almoth E. Wright's "opsonic methods," a new name to disguise the fact that the so-called "opsonic method" is but a distorted plagiarism of homeopathy.

No true homeopath will resort to the method of inoculating drugs, though I will not criticize the physician who may resort to that scientific practice in some extreme case; neither will he give the poison of a diseased condition as a prophylactic to or as a cure for a name; but after the poison of a diseased condition has been "proved," after the manner taught by Hahnemann, the wise physician may administer a minute, a very minute portion of such poison by the mouth to a patient who presents symptoms similar to those of the "provings."



This letter has already extended to so great a length that I dare only touch upon the other matters reported to have been stated by you though I believe every one of them to be erroneous.

The microbic theory of disease upon which your teachings rest is absolutely erroneous. The very word "microbe" is an etymological solecism adopted in the hope of "drowning" in a "conspiracy of silence" the marvellous researches and discoveries of The Master, Béchamp, who justly described the microbic theory of disease as, "la plus grande sottise scientifique de ce temps." ["the greatest scientific folly of this time."]

This marvellous scientific silliness has been marvellously promulgated through the consummate ability (in a certain sense) of M. Pasteur and of his followers. Pasteur did not make any discoveries in biology. As I have above stated his pretended biological discoveries were plagiarized from others, and chiefly from The Master, who not only discovered the causes of fermentation, and that it is a process in nutrition, but also the unit of life, viz: the microzymas. He and his collaborators also discovered that when these became diseased they developed into what have been erroneously termed pathogenic bacteria which, instead of being the causes, are consequences of diseased conditions.

Fortunately for the emancipation of the biological sciences from their present condition of chaos, Pasteur has himself provided the dynamite where with his bubble will be exploded. In his effort to make it appear that he discovered the causes of fermentation, and to plagiarize Béchamp with security, he invented and narrated a fake experiment. You will find it described in the "Annales de chimie et de physique" 3e S. T. LVIII. p. 381, Sec. III., entitled "Production of yeast in a medium form of sugar, a salt of ammonia and of phosphates." I ask you, my dear Professor, to have the moral courage to repeat this pretended experiment, and when you shall have found out the truth, I ask you to declare and denounce the fake. Then indeed you will have to make "a new departure" in your study of biology, commencing with the wonderful discoveries of Béchamp, and finally, when you shall have realized their truth, I ask you to avow that you and the other followers of Pasteur have been deluded by the most monumental charlatan by whom medicine has ever been vexed. "So from his shoulders strip the lion's hide, and clasp a calf-skin on his recreant limbs."

But as, unfortunately, Pasteur is dead, what you will be able to do will be to present to the world in your person the image of a great soul who having been led astray by false gods, has taken the earliest opportunity presented to him of seeking for and avowing the truth.

With hopeful respect, I am, dear Professor Smith.

Yours sincerely,

*Montague R. Levenson*, M.D., of Balt: Med. Col. and Ph.D. and M.A. of the German University of Göttingen.

P.S.- As I design publishing this letter I respectfully write you to reply as early as you conveniently can, so that your reply may be published along with this letter or as soon as possible thereafter. M.R.L.

N.B. No reply having been received up to May 29, 1909, the above letter was that day released for publication.

(\*) Dr. Adolf Vogt, Prof. of Hygiene and Sanitary Statistics at the University of Berne, 6 Report Royal (Br) Com. of Vaccination. 1889; App, No.14-696 a.

(†) This beautiful exposition of the error of inoculation was first given by Dr. J. J. Garth Wilkinson.